

# THE STROBE

FITCHBURG STATE COLLEGE'S NEWSPAPER

Issue 6 Volume XXIII

November 10, 1993

## ACC denies Saturday commencement

by Eric Jackel  
Staff writer

On Wednesday, November 3, the All College Committee (ACC) met to discuss proposals dealing with academic policies and the date for which commencement is scheduled. Certain proposals were tabled due to lack of clarity, and a request for the reconsideration of the May 28 scheduling of graduation ceremonies was denied.

At the request of many members of the Jewish faith, the President proposed that ACC could consider changing the date of graduation. This brought about a dilemma that involved the nature of a public institution versus the provisions made to students of any particular faith.

The problems with changing the date of graduation were vast, according to the ACC. The group discussed the impossibility of satisfying the requests of any one religious group because these religious groups each regard different days of the week as sacred and holy. In addition, a weekday commencement would be impractical because it would be difficult for family members to attend.

Barry Light, Chair of the ACC, said that the committee has dealt with similar problems before. The original afternoon graduation had to be changed to a morning one because some graduates would attend the ceremonies intoxicated.

Due to the "last minute" factor

that surrounds this issue, the request was denied. The ACC said that it did not by any means intend to insult or displease any religious group, but this problem was too short-noticed and open-ended to solve. They did agree, however, that these arguments would be considered in the future when determining the date of commencement.

Another proposal submitted by President Mara involved allowing the admission at Junior status any graduate from one of the fifteen Massachusetts Community Colleges with a 2.5 cumulative average or higher. This would allow these students to forego some required classes to obtain a bachelor's degree in two years of study at FSC. The proposal pointed out that the University of Massachusetts at Amherst currently offers such a program.

Due to a lack of clarity, a third proposal which concerned the grade point average of students within their majors was dismissed. The proposal recommended the following ideas: that students maintain a 2.5 average in their major, that departments only accept students with a 2.0 overall average, students complete their curriculum with an 2.0 overall average and a 2.5 average in their major within eight consecutive academic years, and students with under a 2.0 average for any two school years be dismissed.

The proposal also noted that ACCESS students would be exempt from these policies, and that



Photo by Eric Metzner

their status would be determined by the ACCESS director.

The proposals were motioned to be sent back to President Mara so that each aspect could be rewritten to be a separate proposal. The Academic Policies Committee, a subdivision of the ACC, will further discuss this at their November 17 meeting.

The ACC meets on the first

Wednesday of every month to discuss issues and proposals that essentially encompass every aspect of student life. The committee is divided into four subcommittees which deal with the more specific areas of these issues. Members of the ACC include students, faculty, and administration.

The group is planning on sending meeting notices to all members of

the college community so that anyone who wants to attend can. Students also have the right to submit proposals to the ACC, individually or within an organization, concerning anything that they might want changed or considered.

The next ACC meeting will be on December 1.



Dr. Michelle Zide, Chairperson of the Convocation Committee

## Centennial Convocation plans

by Derek Valcourt  
Strobe staff

The Centennial Committee discussed the Centennial Convocation plans for March 23, 1994 and approved the current centennial year calendar of events at their meeting on Wednesday, November 3.

Dr. Michelle Zide, chairperson of the Convocation Committee, reported for the group, which had met earlier in the day. The Convocation's academic procession is expected to begin at about 9:45am. The president of Tuft's University will be the main speaker and an honorary degree recipient.

The invitation list includes area college presidents, community leaders, the presidents' circle, former and present faculty and trustees. Shuttle parking will be available from the Civic Center to Weston Auditorium, and the com-

mittee has developed crowd overflow plans.

Zide said that the committee is still trying to pursue the scheduling of Hillary Clinton for the convocation. She said Clinton has not declined the school's offer, she simply does not schedule events that far in advance. "If Hillary Clinton comes here, we're going to have to be open to the general public," said Zide, who added that some people think that if Clinton doesn't come, they'll have trouble filling Weston Auditorium.

Zide also said that the committee has tried to get WBZ-TV 4's Liz Walker for the convocation, but Walker does not schedule her activities for the year until January 1 of that year.

College Service Centennial Awards will be given at the convocation to people in three categories: classified staff, faculty, and administration. Nominations for the

awards will be going out in the mail to members of the college community and will be screened by a student on the committee as they arrive so that members of that committee are notified if they are nominated. All nominees will be invited to the convocation, but only members of the awards committee will know who the winners are.

The Convocation committee discussed the possibility of purchasing Centennial chairs for the convocation. Zide said that the Senior class would be approached to consider purchasing 25 or 30 centennial chairs for the college for use in academic convocation and graduations throughout the years. The purchase would have to be made prior to the convocation ceremony but would be considered the Senior class gift to the school.

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## Joan Borysenko to lecture at FSC

FSC Press Release

Joan Borysenko, known world-wide for her groundbreaking work dealing with the power of the mind to heal, will present a free public lecture at Fitchburg State College on November 16 at 8 pm in Kent Hall of the Conlon Building.

The program, part of the college's Visiting Artists and Lecturers Series, is focusing this year on "Health and Healing."

Borysenko has gained recognition as a medical scientist, psychologist, and instructor of meditation. She is president of Mind/Body Health Sciences and author of the New York Times bestseller "Minding the Body, Mending the

Mind." She is also the author of "Guilt Is the Teacher, Love is the Lesson" and "Joan Drescher, On Wings of Light."

Her lecture, "Exploring the Heart of Healing," will look at the synergy among medicine, psychology and spiritual traditions. It will explore medical discoveries of ways in which the mind can influence health.

Borysenko will also discuss psychoneuroimmunology, meditation, mindfulness, relaxation techniques, multiple personality disorder, and near death experiences. Finally, she will explain the "heart of healing" itself, a two-fold process that depends on "transforming the wounds that form the basis of our 'conditional'

oneselves, and connecting with the true nature of who we really are."

The series continues on February 22 with Andre Dubus, an acclaimed writer who struggled for his spiritual and physical survival following an automobile accident that cost him the use of his legs. Deborah Prothrow-Stith, MD, associate dean of the Harvard University School of Public Health and author of "Deadly Consequences: How Violence is Destroying Our Teenage Population and a Plan to Begin Solving the Problem" will be on campus March 2.

The series is funded by the Fitchburg State College Foundation, the college's private fundraising arm.



Joan Borysenko

## Legal Association established on campus

by Michael Gordon  
Strobe staff

On October 20, the Student Organization Committee voted on and approved the Fitchburg State College Legal Association, the first of its kind at FSC.

The Legal Association is an organization geared towards expanding the interests of students who are considering a career in the legal field. The group focuses on careers as a lawyer, police officer, government agent, probation officer, and paralegal.

This organization will coincide with the newly added minor in Criminal Justice, which

was put into effect at the start of the fall semester.

There are several events already planned for the remainder of the year. Some of the projects will be guest speakers from the FBI, DEA, and Secret Service as well as lawyers coming in to speak about requirements, lifestyles, and current trends.

The organization also has its own library and bulletin board in Miller Hall. At the library, members can find information on law schools, paralegal schools, graduate schools with criminal justice programs, internships, as well as civil service and law school exams.

Advisors are available to the

members. Dr. Feng Chou from the Social Sciences department serves as the chief advisor. The group also looks forward to work with Dr. Margot Kempers and Dr. Mary Hanley who will be associate advisors to the students in the group.

Any undergraduate student from any department can become a member of the Legal Association by contacting Dr. Feng Chou in Miller 30 or by sending his or her name, box number, telephone number, YOG, and major through campus mail to Dr. Chou. The next meeting time will be posted on the Miller Bulletin Board, located on the third floor.

## Centennial, continued from page one

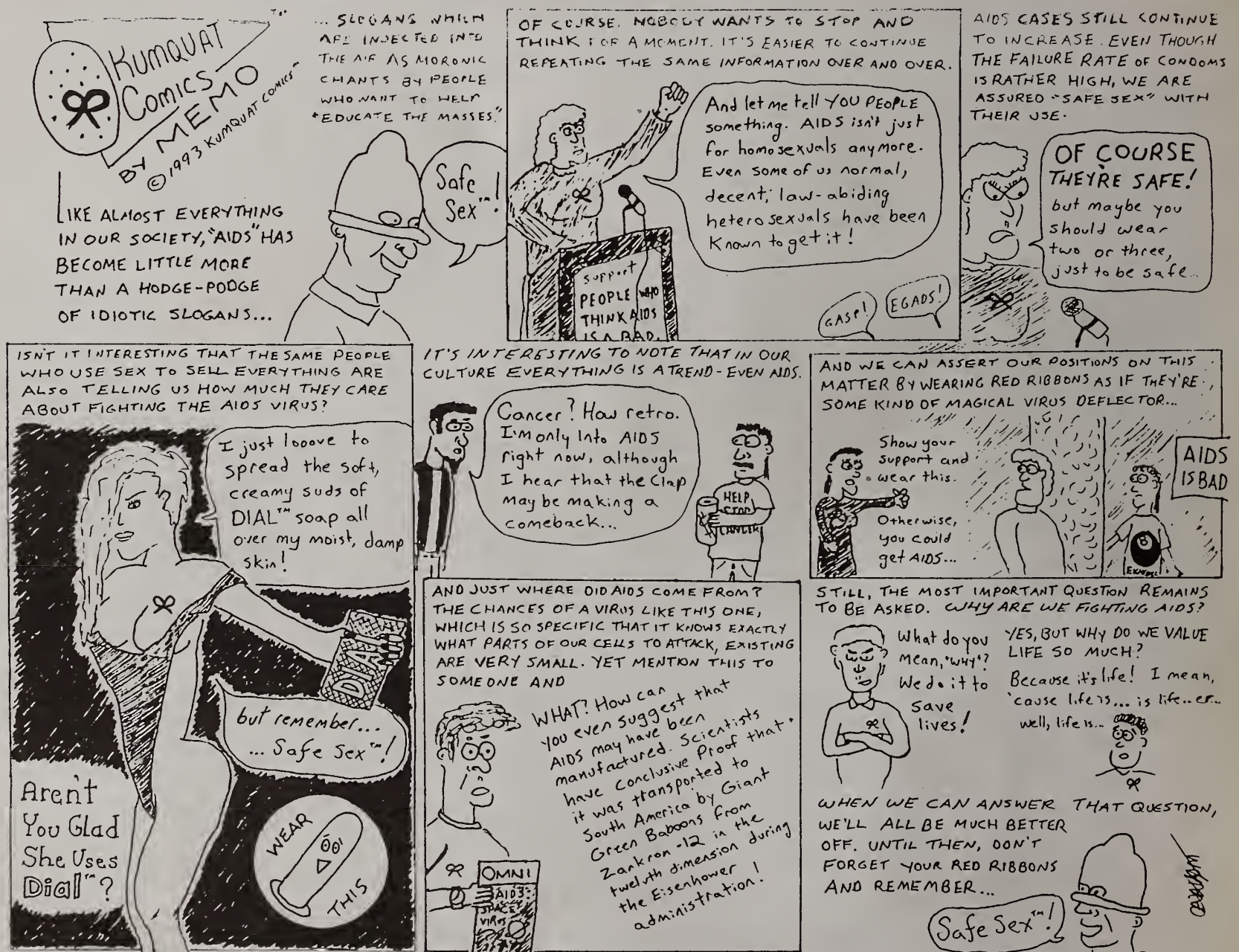
Also, the school will honor 100 individuals in the convocation's commemorative program. "These people are distinguished individuals who have made a significant contribution to the community and to Fitchburg State over the past 100 years," said Zide. "Some of these people may not be living today and others might be, but all of the people will be named in our program."

Classes will be canceled from 9:30 until 11:30, but some centennial committee members thought that this was not enough time for students to be able to attend the one hour ceremony and reception which will be held afterwards in the Hammond building.

Dick Condon, the events coordinator, discussed the Centennial Calendar and made clear that it contained only scheduled events that were absolutely confirmed. The calendar begins in March with the Centennial Convocation and has events scheduled until April of 1995.

The committee said that events could be added but that new events would be discouraged from being scheduled on days already committed to in the Centennial Calendar.

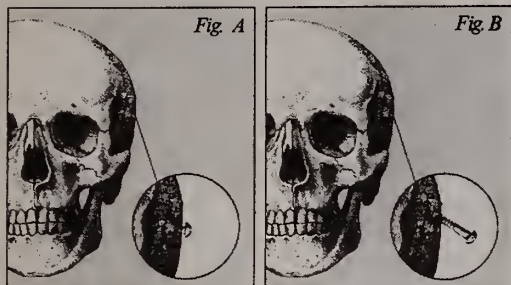
Condon said that certain events were not included on the calendar because he had not had the opportunity to talk with the sponsors and organizers of the programs due to an inability to get in contact with some of them.





# The Anatomy of the Citibank Classic card: a body of services and peace of mind for students.

For years, scientists could only theorize about the Citibank Classic Visa® card, unable to actually observe anything below its epidermal surface (i.e. the plastic). Surely, the highly intelligent services were evidence of an advanced brain. But with the latest advances in x-ray technology, and when the light could catch the various parts just so, it was confirmed: the Citibank Classic Visa card



Scientists theorize that the mind of the Citibank Classic Visa cardmember (Fig. A) is secure because it receives superior service; the mind of the non-Citibank Classic Visa cardmember (Fig. B) is not secure because—could it be—it has a screw loose?

is head to toe more evolved than ever imagined. ¶ At its backbone are 3 services to cover the purchases you make on the card. Starting at the *Lower Costal Spine*, we see **Citibank Price Protection** can assure you of the best price. All you have to do is discover the same item advertised in print for less, within 60 days, and Citibank will refund the difference up to \$150<sup>1</sup>. Along the *Oops-It-*

*Slipped Disc*, **Buyers Security**<sup>sm</sup> can cover those purchases against accidental damage, fire or theft, for 90 days from the date of purchase<sup>1</sup>; and **Citibank Lifetime Warranty**<sup>sm</sup> allows one to extend the warranty for the expected service life of eligible products up to 12 years<sup>2</sup>. So if you ever buy a walkman, a stereo, whatever, it will be reassuring to know that Citibank can bend and be flexible while still lending support.

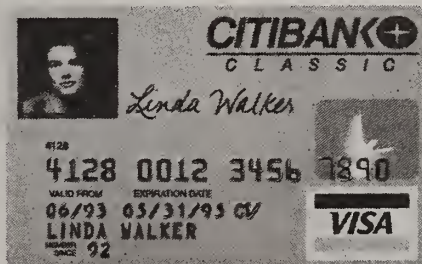
¶ The backbone is then connected to the cranium or headbone. You can actually see it on the top left hand corner of the card. Look at the bottom of the page. The **Citibank Photocard** has the head of the cardholder on it, as well as his or her own signature, right on the front. That way, it will help prevent fraud.

It will make a good form of ID as well, since you get to choose your own photo. ¶ But what about the Nervous System? The fact is, it doesn't have one, not in the spinal cord nor in the brain. What it has is the Very Calm System. Because even if your credit card gets stolen, or gets lost, an involuntary muscle called the *Extendus Anewcardeus* activates the **Lost Wallet**<sup>sm</sup> Service which can replace your card usually within 24 hours. ¶ As suspected, there's another involuntary muscle: the *heart*—a beating and caring heart, big enough to give students special discounts and savings. You'll receive a **\$20 Airfare Discount** on domestic flights<sup>3</sup>; savings on mail order purchases, sports equipment, magazines and music; a low

variable interest rate of 15.4%<sup>4</sup>; and, no annual fee. (In other words, the card itself doesn't cost a forelimb and a hindlimb.) ¶ Naturally the heart of the Citibank Visa card pumps life and personalized customer service into all its parts, **24 hours a day**. So no matter what the question you might have concerning your card, you need only call the 800 number. Citibank representatives each have a neck they are eager to stick out for you. They will always lend an ear. Or a hand. They will keep an eye out for you. They will put their best foot forward. Etc. ¶ So call to apply. You don't need a job or a cosigner. And call if you'd

like your photo added to your regular Citibank Classic Visa card. The number is **1-800-CITIBANK** (1-800-248-4226), extension 19. ¶ If we take an overview of the whole body of services that make up the Citibank Classic Visa card, and consider that it will facilitate building a credit history, then you must shake a leg, flex your index finger and call today.

like your photo added to your regular Citibank Classic Visa card. The number is **1-800-CITIBANK** (1-800-248-4226), extension 19. ¶ If we take an overview of the whole body of services that make up the Citibank Classic Visa card, and consider that it will facilitate building a credit history, then you must shake a leg, flex your index finger and call today.



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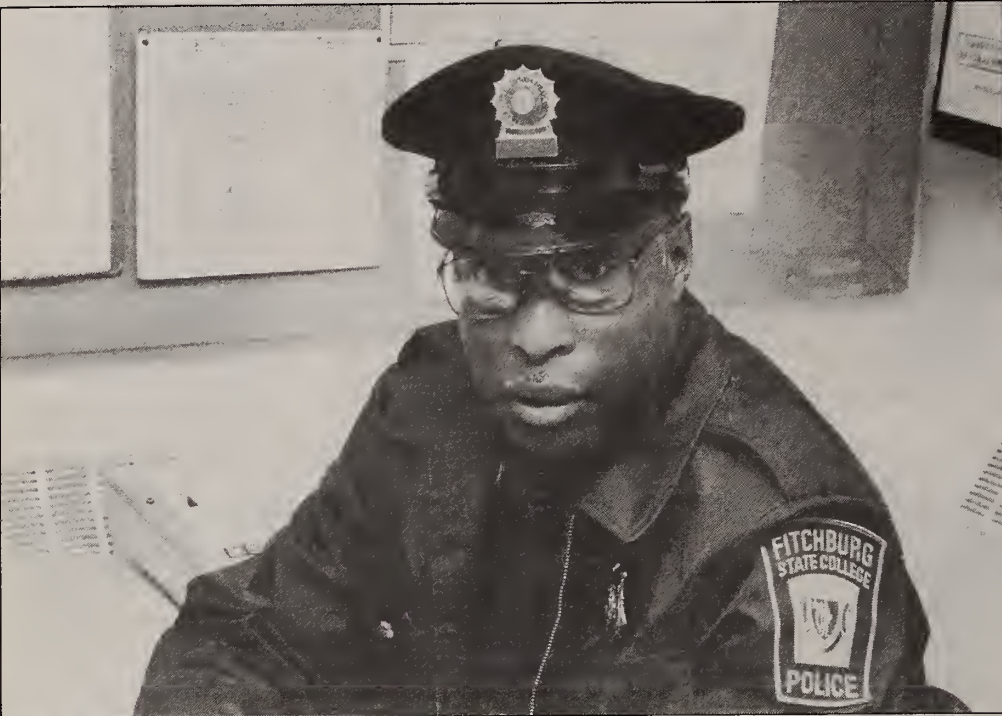
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## Officer Jackson lends safety and security to FSC



Officer Jackson

Photo by Eric Metzner

by Kris Ruberti  
Strobe staff

Have you ever wondered who the friendly, charismatic man in the police uniform patrolling the Fitchburg State College campus was? Well, wonder no more. His name is Officer Mike Jackson and he sees to it that students and faculty members are safe and sound, and that functions at the college run smoothly.

For the past sixteen years, Officer Jackson has enjoyed his job of patrolling the campus grounds, answering to calls and interacting with the people around campus. Most students recognize Officer Jackson as personable and fun to talk to.

Before coming to FSC, Jackson worked for the Fitchburg Auxiliary Police. He attended the State Police Academy and also took classes for CPR and first aid certification.

Campus Police has full police power except for service of civil process. Most of the calls re-

ceived by Public Safety are handled by Officer Jackson and the other Campus Police officers without the assistance of the Fitchburg Police Department.

When asked the question about crime on the FSC campus, Officer Jackson said, "This semester hasn't been bad on campus; last semester was pretty rough."

According to Jackson, the funniest call he ever received was from New Halls 6. Two students had locked themselves in their room on the second floor. The first department came and the only way to get the students out was to break the door down. This was discarded as an option and the students ended up climbing out a window.

Off-duty, Jackson is a father of six who enjoys jogging in his spare time. He is also a softball umpire in the children and adult leagues.

As far as his job is concerned, Officer Jackson said, "I get along with the students very well; they respect me off duty and on."

## Disability Services establishes scholarship in name of FSC student

by Robert Gates  
Contributing writer

Disability Services at Fitchburg State College currently serves over 144 identified persons with a wide range of disabilities, including students with visual, hearing, and/or mobility impairments, learning disabilities, mental illness, AIDS, medical disabilities and students involved with drug and alcohol rehabilitation. As each individual's needs are known, services are adequately supplied.

The coordinator of the program, Debra Horton, meets with students to discuss their disability and to set goals for their academic career as well as to encourage them to participate in specialized programs such as peer support groups, individual content tutoring, the Peer Assisted Study Sessions (PASS), and study skills programs designed to assist them with their academic needs.

The college has been making drastic changes to accommodate and service a variety of students with disabilities. Fitchburg State College has hired a full time coordinator to meet the needs of the students. The physical access to the campus has been improved as well. Over \$100,000 this past year has been used to make buildings more accessible and to provide adaptive furnishings in the classroom and the library.

FSC has also made a commitment to students with disabilities by providing financial support toward an Adaptive Computer Lab. This lab contains software and hardware to accommodate students with a variety of disabilities. Some of the equipment includes a scanner that recognizes text print, voice synthesizer "talking computers", a voice-activated computer for those unable to type on a keyboard, a braille printer, and an enlarged screen program for students with visual impairments. Also, FSC has recently been awarded a grant from the University of Massachusetts at Boston. This grant is for \$15,000 and will be used to further fund the Adaptive Computer Lab. Because of the lab, all printed materials for the college are now available in large print and braille.

Providing these services allows those in our society with disabilities to compete with those who do not have disabilities. This is not done through granting exemptions to these people, but by allowing them to receive accommodations that give them the same opportunity to learn as others. A person who graduates from FSC with a disability often has to work even harder than students who do not have any disabilities.

Garret Conrad was one of these students. Conrad attended Fitchburg State until last spring. Conrad never had the chance to

earn his degree, which he was well on his way to doing. Conrad died in April of 1993.

He was a quadriplegic since 1986, when he broke his neck in an automobile accident. He suffered a stroke one week after the accident and lost the ability to breathe without a respirator. After his accident, Conrad graduated from Lunenburg High School in the summer of 1991. Before his injury, Conrad was a competitive downhill skier, a member of the high school tennis and golf teams, and coached in the local youth soccer league.

After his accident, Conrad transferred much of this energy into succeeding in school. He was a computer programming major and planned to attend graduate school before entering the job market. Conrad was an inspirational student to the entire FSC community. He showed others that they too could overcome their disabilities and live a fruitful, productive life.

It is his overcoming spirit that we at FSC want to keep alive through the establishment of a scholarship in Conrad's name. This scholarship will be awarded annually to a student at Fitchburg State College with the apparent overwhelming challenge of a disability and financial need. In this way, the scholarship, which is being established in the name of one who overcame tremendous



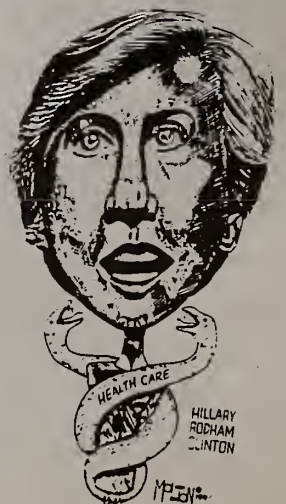
Garret Conrad

odds, can go to aid another student in a similar situation.

If you feel you would like to help and contribute to the Garret Conrad Memorial Scholarship, you may contact Disability Services for further information. The office is located on the third floor of the Hammond Building. Checks may be made payable to Fitchburg State College and mailed to Garrett Conrad Memo-

rial Scholarship, Fitchburg State College, 160 Pearl St., Fitchburg, MA 01420-2697 or may be submitted directly to the Disability Services Office. There will also be a raffle for two Celtics tickets held in G-Lobby over the next two weeks to further supplement the scholarship fund. Stop by and take a chance; your contribution will help preserve the memory of Garret Conrad.

IF MOTHER GOOSE WORKED IN HOLLYWOOD...





## Elementary Ed majors attend conference

by Mary Sperazzo  
Contributing writer

Six Fitchburg State College students went to Cape Cod on October 28 to participate in the 45th Annual New England Reading Association Conference in Hyannis.

The conference kicked off at the Sheraton Tara in Hyannis on October 27 with workshops from 2:00 to 4:00 pm and registration. Thursday began with breakfast and a trip to the Manomet Bird Observatory at 7:00 am for early risers. A publishers' exhibit, which had been set up at 8:30, welcomed conference participants to poke about the literature for sale. Workshops also began at 8:30 with a variety of eight different topics to choose from. Some of the choices were: Portfolio Assessment Goes to College, Where in New England is Carmen Sandiego?, and Picture Books for Older Readers. Keynote speaker, Donna Alvermann, spoke at 10:30 for an hour about changes on literary research.

Another cluster of workshops reconvened at 1:00 with ten

choices to choose from, followed by another set beginning at 2:45. State meetings took place from 4:15-5:15 followed by a free reception sponsored by Houghton Mifflin. At 7:00, a banquet with Ashley Bryan, author, illustrator and storyteller, was offered for a fee.

Friday began with a Past President's Breakfast, sponsored by Silver Burdett Gigg, at 7:00 am free of charge with Barbar Karpinus speaking on "The Challenges of Change in Reading Assessment." A choice was offered at 8:30 of keynote speaker, Commissioner Robert V. Antonucci, of the State Department of Education, or of browsing through the publishers' exhibits. At 10:30, the day's first round of workshops began. Jeanne Hodge, an elementary education major, attended the "Clueing in to Reading Workshop", which provided participants with a variety of new methods and ideas addressing comprehension and metacognitive assessment activities to use with literature-based programs. She described the workshop as "energizing and useful" and expressed

great interest in bringing this speaker, Karen Burke, to Fitchburg to address the elementary education students.

Another block of workshops began at 1:00 pm. Finally, the conference wound down with a celebration of authors and storytellers. Each author shared with the audience how they went about dealing with certain issues in their books, what they did to make their book a success, and ways to encourage students to write creatively.

Thanks to Dr. Rona Flippo of the Education Department, Elementary Education majors have been able to share and experience this conference and gain insight into careers which they are about to embark upon. Unfortunately, Dr. Flippo was unable to accompany her students to this year's conference.

If you're majoring in Elementary Education, don't miss this event next year. Certificates of participation are provided to students for CEU/Staff development credit, which is beneficial in compiling the Elementary Education portfolio.

## Professor Profile: Dr. Alice LoCicero

by Jason Koivu  
Staff writer

Dr. Alice LoCicero of the Psychology Department is our professor in profile this week. Dr. LoCicero is at Fitchburg State College for the 93-94 school year covering for another professor who is on sabbatical.

Dr. LoCicero's focus is mainly on teaching developmental skills in the clinical approach to psychology. She's no stranger to this, as the early part of her professional career stressed the clinical psychology area.

More recently, however, she has shifted to the academic approach. LoCicero has taught at a number of schools during her career, including Lesley, Simmons, Northeastern, and she even held a position at Harvard Medical School.

Her work here at FSC brings her quite a way from her home in Cambridge, where she lives with her two children, ages ten and twelve, and their golden retriever. She enjoys the time she has with her kids. They like to cross-country ski, run, bicycle and play tennis together. "The things we like to do are pretty much outdoor things," said LoCicero. These activities include roller blading. Dr. LoCicero said jokingly, "I don't think I've broken the record for the oldest roller blader, yet!"

To most who know the urban location of the city of Cambridge, it would seem an impossibility for the LoCicero family to undertake these activities, but they are lucky enough to live at the edge of a golf course and there are other places for them to go. "We have parks in Cambridge and also Memorial Drive along the river is closed for a three to four mile stretch on Sundays. So people bicycle and there's a lot of roller bladers," said LoCicero.

Even with her long commute, Dr. LoCicero seems to like it here at FSC. "I would like to stay on, I've enjoyed it here," she said. "The students are very nice to work with and very appreciative."

# No Brainer.



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## Amnesty Corner

Amnesty International is a worldwide human rights organization that monitors human rights violations wherever and whenever they occur. Amnesty sends reports of these violations to each of its offices worldwide. Each individual member then writes a letter to the head of the country where the violation took place, informing him/her of what has gone on and that it is a violation of The Universal Declaration of Human Rights. When 15,000 of these letters appear on the leader's desk, he/she feels pressure from the world community, and changes are made. Sometimes, a prisoner is allowed to be fed, sometimes the torture stops, other times the prisoner is allowed a visit by a lawyer or family.

Each week, The Strobe is running the Amnesty International Corner which will carry the most current human rights violation received by the Amnesty chapter at FSC. Amnesty International meets every Tuesday night at 7:00pm in G-07. Air grams, used when writing these letters, can be obtained for free through AIFSC. Just write your name and box number and send it to Amnesty International through campus mail and an air gram will be sent to you.

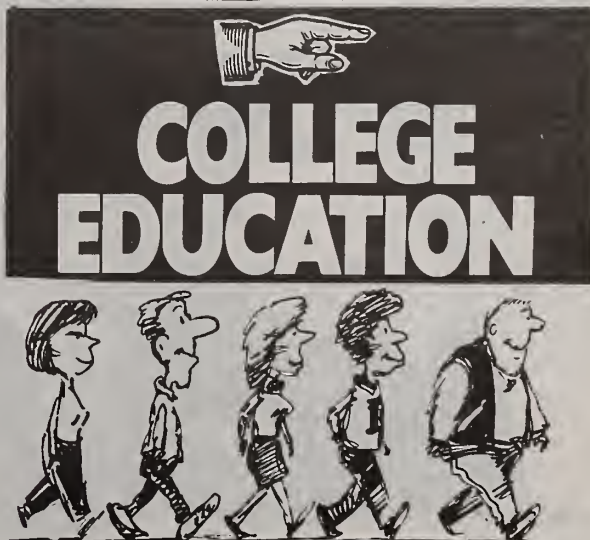
LOCATION: EQUATORIAL GUINEA, DEATH IN CUSTODY, TORTURE

SALUTATION: Dear Presidente

AI is expressing concern that Miguel Nseng Bacate, an army sergeant, and Pedro Mot Mamiaga, a political activist, were both killed in custody as a result of torture. Amnesty has also learned that two other detainees are believed to be dead, also as a result of torture.

AI is also concerned that the bodies of the deceased were not returned to their respective families. Amnesty is demanding a full and public judicial inquiry into these deaths, and that those found to be responsible are brought to justice.

ADDRESS:  
Colonel Obiang Nguem Mbasago  
Presidente de la Republica  
Ministro de la Defensa Nacional  
Gabinete del Presidente de la Republica  
Malabo, Republica de Guinea Equatorial





## THE STROBE

FITCHBURG STATE COLLEGE'S NEWSPAPER

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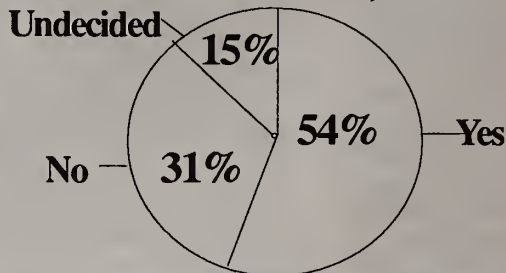
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The Strobe is available in large print, braille, and on audio tape upon request.



## EYE on FSC

Would you support mandatory, national HIV testing to stop the spread of AIDS?



100 people were asked this question at random

## From The Editor's Desk...

Safety is the buzzword for these innocuous Nineties.

We have safe sex, safe suds, safe schools, safe speech (PC), ad infinitum, ad nauseum. Inherent within this premise of safety is a lack of danger, even chance. This perhaps is a backlash against the overwhelming feeling of danger that lurks in so many areas of our society, that until recently, were thought to be safe and clear.

The shooting death of Carol DiMaiti Stuart, and the resultant suicide of her widower/murderer Charles Stuart a few years ago certainly sent ripples of fear towards blacks and in the long run, marriage itself.

The bombing of the World Trade Center made us realize that our shores were no longer protected by a sheath of impenetrability, and the heretofore "extremist-can't amount-to anything-otherside-of-the-world" image of terrorists was replaced by one of neighbors.

AIDS has rendered the Great American Bedroom a mausoleum and scratches on bedposts now signal claw marks on a coffin, scratching to get out. The member of the opposite sex that is taken into your heart and shown your soul must now pass a series of soulless tests, and the computerized results show you what once only your heart would tell you for sure: Is he/she good enough for me?

The result of this incessant battering of our society by all things dangerous is that we are still fascinated with danger, but now must be fascinated from a what is deemed a "safe" distance. In short, we have become a nation of voyeurs. Our own marital or dating relationships

aren't risqué enough; we need to watch Divorce Court and amuse ourselves with other people's pain.

Shows like COPS, Rescue 911, and most abhorrently, Code 3 bring death and crime and trauma into our living rooms on a nightly basis. Our own lives (if we are lucky) don't contain trauma and drama anymore, so we must sit on our sofas with our non-alcoholic beers with our HIV negative spouses and find entertainment in stories of children witnessing their parents' murder.

Personal involvement in any of the issues presented on these shows, i.e. domestic violence, inner city stagnancy, the genocide of an entire generation of young black males, would require us to lose our bubbles of safety and step outside into the cold and angry streets. Who wants to do that when all you have to do is change the channel?

Because of the extensive violence on television that we pervasively view, we as a society have become desensitized to danger and crime. We have taken up the attitude of "If it doesn't burst my safety bubble, it doesn't concern me." It is an attitude that is permeating many facets of American ideology. We are becoming a nation of couch potatoes gripping amongst ourselves about the state of affairs, but refusing to do anything tangible about it.

Nothing has ever come out of an age of safety other than an increase in alienation and fear. When safety is key, everyone is most concerned with taking care of themselves, regardless of anyone else's interests. Until we bring back the element of danger into our lives, i.e. cooking a meal at a homeless shelter and conversing with one of its residents,

attending a battered women's meeting and hearing stories of abuse emanating from a mouth rather than a TV show, these situations will continue to be nothing but images, as transitory as the fleeting days.

We need to step outside and take a chance. Get hurt. Feel bad. Make someone smile. Spill some blood, clean up someone else's. Face the danger that is around you; don't watch someone else's from within your home. Destroy the sheath of safety that is embalming us and taste the fear of the unknown. Its darkness will soon give way to light, a light that will show the way for someone else, a light that you will have created by taking a chance and making a difference.

Please don't think I am advocating unsafe sex; that is not at all the case. Rather, I am tired of watching the decline of our society by individuals who are content watching other people's pain and trauma and doing nothing about it other than turning down the volume, or changing the channel.

I must admit I reserve a special smile for days when the word "Insanity!" appears as a banner headline across a sports section (the parachutist at the Bowe-Holyfield fight), but it is a smile that knows that headline could be spread across any section of any newspaper. So many of the things happening today find us witnessing the realm of sanity growing smaller and smaller. In order to stop that trend, tangible changes and contributions must be made. Fingernails must get dirtied and sleeves rolled up. The trend of inclusive safety must be bucked.

We must make like an arrow, and deceive the ground through flight.

## Alcohol, not initiation, is the problem

by Kimberley Mangiacotti  
Contributing writer

Lambda Phi Sigma, also known as the Gaveleers, is a proud and prominent society. Established in 1921, their history of public service, as well as the history of other fraternities and sororities should be commended. Significant fund raisers such as Annual Blood Drives, Walks for AIDS, and more recently, a "sleep out" for Multiple Sclerosis, prove the moral obligations of all Brothers and Sisters in every society of Greek life.

When a Society's initiation event goes awry, it is unfortunate that certain circumstances, and some hearsay opinions, are used to reflect the college and all of its organizations as a whole. Everyone pays and this is not right. Public awareness should be focused on the abuses of alcohol and not the unfolding of events in Vermont. The abuse of alcohol is a rapidly accelerating problem which desperately requires some serious attention toward finding a solution. In any event, pointing a finger at one group and taking a "let's make them pay" attitude will not prevent alcohol related affairs from reoccurring, school related or not.

The recent chain of events in Vermont should not indicate that drinking is a necessary part of any initiation process. It would appear that current members and leaders of the Gaveleers need to regain control. Reevaluation of the goals and values set forth by, and with Senior Elders, may secure the expansion which was initially designed for future generations. Prevention is the better cure.

## Frankly Speaking

by Phil Frank

You may think it's an honor  
but I refuse to wear it.



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# Political correctness drains America's sense of humor

by Shawn Sullivan  
Staff writer

There's something seriously wrong with this nation, gang. We've lost our sense of humor.

The people of The United States of America are wandering through a humorless minefield, tiptoeing around hypersensitive and ultra-serious explosives packed with what good, decent folk like to call Political Correctness.

In a non-stop crusade to prevent rubbing anyone the wrong way, the Powers That Wanna Be are trying to mold this ridiculous PC landscape into some kind of half-baked utopia in which such fringe organizations like Those Who Nuke Gay Whales For Christ can exist without taking offense from anything while kids are allowed to carry guns and sell drugs at school. Now I'm not an alarmist of any sort, and I'm certainly not here to declare the arrival of fascism in America. I am, however, an average joe who would like to watch a TV show, go to a Walt Disney feature, and celebrate our favorite holidays without the senseless pressures of Political Correctness tying my hands behind my back and reminding me that having fun is a waste of time.

Political Correctness is a national attempt to correct all that is deemed offensive by various

groups of people. Admittedly, it is a fairly noble, compassionate mission, especially in outright cases of racism, sexism, and discrimination. Sometimes, however, the cause ventures into the downright ridiculous, and ends up offending those who were never offended in the first place.

Take this past Halloween, for example. Did any of you come across any little girls dressed up as witches? You may have - and even passed out Tootsie Rolls and lollipops to them - but if you did, I'll bet you ten to one that the costume was made by the little tyke herself, with a little help from mom and dad. Witch costumes were taken off the shelves of your favorite department store this year because vats of witches were brooding (pronounced brew-ding) over the spells of negative images that were cast of their practices. These cries of discrimination probably came from the same coven that picketed movie theaters showing Bette Midler's "Hocus Pocus" this summer.

Excuse me, folks. This is really sad. Children are some of the most innocent creatures walking this earth. When they dress up as witches, it's because kids have been doing it since Halloween began. There is never any discriminatory intent in their precious little heads when they grab a broomstick, dress

in black, and paste a big, hairy mole to the right of their noses. When kids dress up on Halloween, they are never out to assassinate the image of any one person or group of people. If anything, they are taking one day out of the year to emulate that image. Depriving them of that simple joy is offensive.

So is nitpicking scrutiny on such fluffy fare as a Walt Disney movie. "Aladdin", Walt Disney Studio's most successful film ever, recently had to edit one little, itty-bitty lyric from one of its musical numbers in order to provide a Politically Correct version of the movie for your local video store. The lyric, which goes in one ear and out the other if you make like a normal moviegoer and just sit back to enjoy the film, has the word "barbaric" in it, and supposedly will create anti-Arab sentiment in our country. What, and the bombing of the World Trade Center in New York City won't? Not to mention an America-hyped Persian Gulf War? Lighten up, people. With the exception of your standard Disney villain, "Aladdin" contains a whole coast of Arabs who are friendly and heroic, therefore negating any charges of Arab bashing in the film. It's just animation, my friends. It's not the NBC Nightly News, where you can see murdered American soldiers dragged through the streets of So-

malia.

Neither is "Beavis and Butt-head", those pompadoured metalheads who wreak havoc on everybody's favorite Politically Correct network, MTV. Recently, this nightly, half-hour circus of anti-social behavior was held responsible for the death of a two-year-old girl when her five-year-old brother set fire to their house. For the uninitiated, the B&B characters are reckless "bags of atrophy" who frequently express their fascination with fire by chanting "Fire! Fire! Fire!"

You probably thought fire was "huh, huh, huh, ...cool" when you were a kid. It was up to your parents to introduce you to Smokey the Bear and to teach you that a lit match is very, very dangerous. It is a terrible tragedy that a child died in that fire, but the blame of that fatal incident cannot be placed on a TV show, no matter how trashy and sick that program may be. The mother of this little girl blamed "Beavis and Butt-head" for allegedly instilling a passion for fire into her son. In order to place the blame on the show, the mother had to be completely aware of the program's controversial content, and the fact that her preschooler was watching it. She should have been monitoring her son's viewing habits, therefore making her the one who was teaching the ol' family

values, and not Beavis and Butt-head.

These are just a few examples of the nonsense that is going on in this country. In the cases of the witches and "Aladdin", we are presenting ourselves as a humorless society in complete fear of expressing our Constitutional rights. In the case of the house burning down, we are showing a complete lack of responsibility in taking blame for our own actions. Such an attitude makes a seemingly compassionate campaign like Political Correctness come off as a farcical lie.

We need to kid ourselves more; the human being is perhaps the most hilarious species ever to roam this planet. If we can't find humor in ourselves, then how will we survive? And if we can't accept responsibility for our actions, then how will we correct our mistakes? There is a chance that I may have offended you with this article, and that you may go flipping through the yearbook to find a picture of Rush Limbaugh or Dan Quayle in there somewhere. For those of you who pinched your nose and found this to be a particularly insensitive corner of the newspaper, allow me to congratulate you. You are now a Politically Correct individual. And you completely missed my point.

## Political correctness: a question of offense

by Shawn Kelly  
Contributing writer

Why are we so afraid to speak our minds? Why don't we get to the point and say what we mean anymore? When someone does something without thinking it is more politically correct to say "This was a sad consequence of an intelligence deficiency." It was stupid! Why can't we just say it was a stupid thing to do?

When it comes to writing for the general public, things only get worse. We have to be absolutely crystal clear and use homogenized, luke warm words, because if we did otherwise, the public might have to use their imagination or maybe even have to think. Thinking is bad because if you think about what you read or hear, you just might be offended. Most thought processes are centered around "How can I be offended by this?" People are looking to be offended, and if that's as much intelligence that can be mustered up, fine. Be offended.

Since when does "freedom of speech" mean "freedom of speech as long as everyone else feels comfortable"? It's true that there are

some extremely offensive things in the world, but that is as inevitable as death.

So what about political correctness? Does anyone else feel that this is a blatant oxymoron? Since when have politics or politicians been right about anything? And who decides what the next politically correct attitude is going to be? Maybe in a few years it will be politically incorrect to punish corrupt government officials. That would be very embarrassing to the poor person and he or she would, most certainly, find it quite offensive to lose her job.

An article of mine was published in The Strobe a few weeks ago in which was printed "...I do reserve the right to sometimes be offensive to stop something that is truly more offensive". That's not what I wrote, so I'll reiterate here. "I reserve the right to offend, as you have the right to be offended". There is no "sometimes" involved here. Every time you open your mouth, you are offending someone somewhere. No one has the right to silence anyone no matter how "intelligently impaired" their ideas are.

## School and community study misleading

by Mark Hubert  
Contributing writer

School-Community relations. Is there any such thing in Fitchburg? Fitchburg State College just completed an independent study of College-Community relations, as done by an independent, outside consulting firm. The result, unfortunately, is confusing and misleading.

A large portion of the study/report deals with Student/Campus Community relations. One of the recommendations of the report was that greater effort be exerted to schedule more classes on Friday. It is a presumption of such a schedule change would solve much of the problem of weekend partying. What do you want to bet on the success of that proposal?

In studying the problem of the local community's relationship with the college (Town/Gown relations), very little was said about the

attitude of some local residents and landlords to college students. There is no question that college students are noisy and sometimes rowdy. But there is no need to call the local police every time students living in the community have a party. All parties are not necessarily rowdy. Those that are should be controlled by police and the students, but not always by an arrest.

But what about those landlords and property owners who rent condemned, unsafe houses and apartments? Do you have any idea how many off-campus apartments are in desperate need of repairs? Unsafe flooring, poor or no heat, broken windows and doors, etc. I am referring to rentals that go year in and year out without any repairs or upkeep. The slum-lords are only out for the money they can collect - forget repairs.

There is another indication of the Town/Gown community attitude towards students. That is the attitude and conduct of local police. It is

standard practice for City Police to harass anyone, male or female, who LOOKS like a college student.

And finally, there is the attitude of City officials to the college. In many respects it seems to indicate a hope that the college will "just go away", just disappear, in spite of the fact that the college provides one of the largest payrolls and source of income in the town. Or maybe the attitude is just "spend your money and go away".

Most communities with colleges have a Town/Gown problem, but I doubt if there are many as serious as that of Fitchburg/FSC. You must understand that all the problems are not the fault ONLY of the community and town officials. The college and the students must share in the blame for the poor and uncooperative relationship. It will take more than a "study" to solve the problems.

But let's start before it is too late.

<b>\$3.00 OFF</b>	<b>FREE</b>	<b>\$9.99</b>
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# KNB EFX group weaves its movie magic

by Gina Procopio  
Staff writer

Did you ever wonder how movie actors are set on fire? Thanks to the K.N.B. EFX Group, I now know how. On October 26, the special effects group was brought to the Percival Auditorium by the Fitchburg State College Programs Committee. Ted Hanes, spokesman for the K.N.B. EFX Group covered that question and many others.

The presentation started with a movie scanning the history of special effects from their start in the early 1880's to the present 1990's. The Wolfman, Swamp Thing and Frankenstein were some of the first creatures shown, and in comparison to today's high tech standards, these classics were simplistic. Examples of more recent, involved effects were the monster from the "Alien" films, the flying fight scenes in "The Rocketeer", and the new computer enhancements used in the latest "Terminator". The Wolfman paled in comparison.

As for the whole burning thing, it is not an enjoyable experience for the actor involved. To start off, molds of the actor's face are made from a composition called

algenate. The subject must then hold whatever crazy and uncomfortable position the director wants for 20 minutes until the form can set. This form is called a life cast; thin layers of latex in the shape of the person's face.

The casts are then air brushed or colored with pax paint to have life-like color. Several of these life casts were used in the movie "Darkman" for the main character. Thicker burn masks can be formed from these life casts. They are made of a quarter inch thick layer of latex and have no holes, so that when lit, the flames cannot reach the skin, or ignite oxygen under the mask. Just from being near one of these masks, I can tell you that they reek! Do you know that dentist glove smell? Just imagine one of those gloves on your head, extra thick, with no air holes and you



KNB EFX group was enjoyed by all.

Photo by Eric Magiera

have a burn mask.

Seriously though, a lot of work goes into making each of these things. Human hair is used on these masks. Using a lack hook tool to poke in each strand, eight to twelve hours can be spent giving a head of hair to one mask.

Let me tell you more about K.N.B. EFX. K.N.B. is short for the three founders of the effects com-

pany: Bob Kurtzman, Greg Nicotero and Howard Bergur. The group is responsible for the grotesque characters in pictures such as "The People Under the Stairs", "The Army of Darkness" and "Reservoir Dogs". Hanes brought with him the head of Pumpkinhead, from the movie of the same name. This particular monster's head is worth

\$10,000. It is rigged to remote controls that are operated by two people, coordinating the movements that would be made by his facial features.

The talents of K.N.B. not only lie in making busts of monsters, but in whole creatures as well. Inside one of these creations is a man, who can barely see out of his suit of latex. Sometimes it takes over an hour for the actor to get into the suit;

he then spends about twelve hours in it, and then longer than an hour to get out. For the record, women have been used as well, but the larger monster suits are too heavy. The mechanical movements of the eyes and mouth make an annoying sound like a toy crane, and echo inside the twenty pound fiber glass shell that makes up the head of the creature. If the person inside gets too hot, a hair dryer-like fan can be inserted to blow cold air into the suit. While a person is in costume the only thing that he can eat is what will fit through a straw. There are also no bathroom breaks for the poor prisoner inside.

K.N.B. has worked with talented designers from hits like "Jurassic Park", and a member of their staff was an employee for the late Jim Henson. K.N.B. is responsible for several of the faces that Kathy Bates showed in "Misery". They never really hit her with that typewriter, it was her lifecast covered with blood. Currently K.N.B. is working on a new movie called "Wyatt Earp" with more buffalo carcasses like the ones they made for "Dances with Wolves". Also look for a giant bowl of corn flakes on the television show "Picket Fences"; it's part of K.N.B. EFX Group's wonderful work!

## At the flicks

### Nightmare Before Christmas: twisted, but not a cult film

by Danielle Sullivan  
Strobe staff

Tim Burton's latest whimsical creation, "The Nightmare Before Christmas", follows in the footsteps of two of his previous movies, "Beetlejuice" and "Edward Scissorhands" by transporting the viewer to another curious world needing to be explored.

The advertisements for this movie led me to believe that it would soon become a cult classic with its realistic, yet strange animation and what seemed a twisted story line. However, what this film really is is a musical geared towards children ages nine and up.

The story begins with a magical forest in which stands a ring of trees, each representing a holiday of the year. Burton brings the audience to Halloween Town, where they are celebrating their annual holiday. The viewer is subjected during these scenes to the dark and terrifying animation

that caught my attention on the advertising trailers. From then on, the animation does not falter - it still remains captivating, yet the singing and the plot become boring for an adult. It is a modern day fairy tale for kids, complete with plenty of villains and heroes.

Jack the Pumpkin King is our main character. He is the celebrity of Halloween Town, and is always relied upon to make every year scarier, and more exciting. However, this thin, tall skeleton yearns for something different, and his wish is fulfilled when he finds the group of holiday trees and comes upon Christmas Town. He is fascinated by the wonder of Christmas and the beauty that is different from what he normally considers beautiful, such as spiders and blood. He takes some samples of this wonderful holiday back home with him and proceeds to plan for the best Christmas ever, which he will control. With the help of the rest of Halloween Town, Jack manages to kidnap Santa Claus, and

prepare for the big night.

Sally, a woman made of patchwork cloth and stuffed with leaves, is Jack's friend and later love interest. She has foreshadowing visions of the terrible things that await Jack's Christmas celebration. The Pumpkin King is too caught up in the festivities to worry about silly dreams though, and proceeds as planned.

Perhaps the best scenes in the movie, and the funniest, are what awaits the children on Christmas morning in their stockings. Humans are animated in a rotund, adorable way and Santa Claus is a sight to be seen, especially when trying to escape from a horrible monster.

This is definitely a great movie to bring a group of kids to, although younger children may be frightened by some of the characters. Otherwise, if you enjoy great animation, and have an affinity for twisted, Disney-like fairy tales, see this movie and have a ball.

## The Solitary Man knocks 'em dead

by Tricia Cronin  
Contributing writer

Ever since watching "The Jazz Singer" - the story of singer Neil Diamond's life, it was a dream of mine to see this great entertainer perform. Sure, friends of mine may poke fun at my taste in music, but I'm sure everyone knows the words to at least one of Neil Diamond's songs.

My dream finally came true on the night of Friday, October 29, when this music legend performed the first of his three shows at the Worcester Centrum.

Neil's titillating performance of "America" launched the crowd into a frenzy. To set the patriotic mood, huge American flags descended from the rafters. Throughout the evening lasers created a colorful, vibrant atmosphere. Neil performed on a rotating stage in the center of the arena. A wide variety of talented musicians accompanied Mr. Diamond as his back up band. Trumpets, trombones, bongos, and guitars created a vivacious aura similar to that which is heard on his albums.

Approximately midway through the show, Neil changed

into formal attire. A gigantic Christmas tree then rose from the floor and he performed several Christmas songs off of his new album. After singing "The Little Drummer Boy", "Silent Night" and a few others, he changed his clothes one more time and sang more of his classic hits. I was a little disappointed in his choice of wardrobe for the night. I was hoping to catch Neil in one of his old colorful sequined costumes.

For almost two and a half hours Neil sang and stimulated his audience. "Sweet Caroline" was a real crowd pleaser and the whole audience sang along. However, my favorite performance was "Brother Loves Traveling Salvation Show". He also sang a duet with one of the back up singers to "You Don't Bring Me Flowers". Neil's more recent hit, "Heartlight" created an ocean of lighters throughout the crowd. Most of the audience consisted of the baby boom generation, however they didn't lack enthusiasm and many were dancing throughout the entire show.

The evening proved to be quite entertaining and Neil lived up to his reputation as being one outstanding entertainer. My dream was all that I'd hoped it would be.

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# Comedy Night headliner best yet



Jimmy Smith kept the crowd in stitches.

Photo by Paula Ferazzi

by Danielle Sullivan  
Strobe staff

On Thursday, October 28, the Programs Committee once again presented Comedy Night, a bi-weekly event held in the Fitchburg State College Pub.

The first comedian of the night was Bill Burr. His act was rather short, which may have been because he could barely evoke a murmur from the docile audience, let alone a laugh. He is not a commanding person and his sarcastic style of comedy did not match his personality. Although he knew that the audience was fairly asleep during his routine, Burr must be com-

mended for his effort in keeping his head up and not drowning in discouragement.

Jimmy Smith, the headliner of the night, was possibly one of the funniest comedians to have ever appeared at FSC's Comedy Night. Having performed previously on Showtime, HBO and MTV, Smith was clearly a professional, commanding the packed audience's attention as soon as he set foot on the stage. His energetic, loud and crazy manner had every person in the Pub doubling over with laughter.

Smith had the ability to personalize himself with the audience. He actually made everyone in the Pub pull their chairs and tables closer to

the stage, and then proceeded to pull people out of the crowd and joke around with them.

Particularly hilarious were Smith's comments on the hairdos worn by women in Revere, and the skit in which he placed silver triangular projectiles into his ears and proceeded to wiggle them. It's really something meant to be seen, not written about, for the full impact.

The crowd was at its wildest for Smith's finale, his musical of "Phantom of the Opera Meets the Girl From Revere". Although Smith is in no danger of losing his comedic talent, he would have quite a future as an opera singer if he chose to. Just kidding.

## LeMieux naked without his band

by Bert Pimentel  
Contributing writer

On Sunday, November 1, Ray Lemieux, rhythm guitarist for the band Heretix, played in the Fitchburg State College Pub at Coffeehouse, sponsored by the Programs Committee. His acoustic performance ran astray from the usual heavy, electric sound he plays with his band.

The first songs he performed were not able to keep my attention for long. My bright-eyed enthusiasm quickly dissipated as repetitive rhythms and identical song structures wore down my vigor. The

only way to describe the music is to say it sounded like a Violent Femmes song with no chord changes. I did enjoy his singing, however.

Throughout the performance I did find a couple of songs that I liked, one of which reminded me of something that might have come off of Lenny Kravitz's Let Love Rule album, by the way the song built up into a climactic chorus. This was one of the songs he plays with Heretix and I would like to hear it done with the other instruments.

Although I found his acoustic performance boring, I would not

make that judgment for Heretix. I've never heard them perform, but Lemieux's strong use of dynamics must be more powerful when done electrically. With the other guitar player the band has, the mediocre rhythms could be brought to life.

Aside of the few high points, I'm sorry to say that my first visit to Coffeehouse was less than impressive. I'm normally captivated by watching anyone who can play decent music of any sort. This however, I found boring. I was told by several people from the audience that the other performers are usually better, so I would not think twice about giving it another shot.

## CD Reviews

by Eric Hellweg  
Strobe staff

**Matthew Sweet: Altered Beast**- In the old days, people's occupational titles were simple. No petroleum transport engineers, neuro-physicalifragilists or the like. Whatever you did, a "smith" was added, and voila, you had a title.

If Matthew Sweet lived back then, it's no doubt the placard in front of his office would read "Matthew Sweet, Songsmith." Sweet's fourth release, *Altered Beast*, is a masterful compilation of songwriting prowess. Each song is a veritable primer of how-to-write-a-smart-pop-number, each encapsulating an emotion or thought in its entirety within the song's three and a half minute life span.

Sweet's last release, *Girlfriend*, was much like *Beast* in its masterful technique, but the moods on these two albums are as different as Calculus and Health and Fitness. *Beast* opens with "Dinosaur Act", an amorphous number proclaiming Sweet's return to the scene. Other highlights include "Someone to Pull the Trigger", "Ugly Truth Rock", and "In Too Deep".

If you're looking for an album that conveys a wide swath of emotions without getting too fluffy or too deep, this is one for you. Also, if you are a fan of incredible guitar playing and think Richie Sambora or Zakk Wilde "got nothin'", check out Sweet's resident master strummer, Robert Quine (ex-Lou Reed, Richard Hell and the Voidoids). Other guests on this album include Nicky Hopkins on keys and Mick Fleetwood on percussion.

**Johnny Clegg and Savuka: Heat, Dust, and Dreams**- OK, this is the way it is. Political correctness abounds on campuses and in all media forms. Within this release lies a potentially sticky PC situation, but included in this review is a solution that can be applied, well, everywhere.

This band from South Africa unites three black musicians with three white ones. Their songs often start out with an African beat (don't all rock and roll songs?) or melody, and then the poppier elements come in. Songs on *Heat, Dust, and Dreams* combine lyrics like "Lomhlaba unzima lomhlaba" (This world is a harsh place, this world) with "When I hold you, I tremble inside/Can we ride out the storm?"

The premise for this band and for this album is an admirable one: black and white musicians from South Africa uniting to show the universality of music and art, regardless of color or creed. The problem? The music sucks. The majority of these songs end up sounding like Rick Springfield circa "Jesse's Girl" as the African flavor is lost about 15 seconds into the song. Any attempt at a serious topic is nullified by the lackluster arrangement.

You ask, "What does that have to do with PC?" Well, in literature anyway, there are rallying cries to shake up the canon and include more multicultural works. The notion of this is not a problem. The problem lies in the fact that this canonical revolution is carried out with such fervor that often the most important question of "Is it a good work of art?" is left out. That should be the test of all literature, art, music- not who wrote it, drew it, sang it, et al.

So, while Johnny Clegg and Savuka are to be commended on an ideological level for such a noble endeavor, on a musical level, they have a long way to go.



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# Announcements

Audio compact discs are available in the library for student use. These discs are listed in the OPAC -Online public access catalogs - computers located in the middle of the first floor of the library. These discs are arranged by call number and are available at the Circulation Desk. There is a compact disc player on the 3rd floor and headphones are needed which are also available at the Circulation Desk. Audio compact discs can be checked out for four weeks so be sure to bring your FSC I.D. card.

Counseling Services will be offering several groups and workshops this semester. These include:

- Adult Children of Alcoholics Beginner's Group, Wednesdays, 3:30-5:00 in B16.
- Adult Child of Alcoholics Therapy Group, please call X3152 for more information.
- Past Sexual Trauma Group will be offered at two different times. Please call X3152 for more information.
- Relationships Group, Thursdays, 3:30-5:00, in B26/27.
- Meditation Group, Wednesdays, 3:30-5:00, in B26/27.
- Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and People Questioning Their Sexual Identity Group, please call X3152 for more information.

- Potential groups for the future will focus on eating disorders and coping with loss. If interested in attending such groups, students should contact Counseling Services.

Come join us to share, learn and grow together. For more information, call x3152, or stop by the Counseling Services Office on the 3rd floor of the Hammond Building between 2:00-3:00.

The Newman Center and Chapel Schedule of Services:

Sunday Mass - 11 am  
Monday mass - 8 pm  
Tuesday Eucharistic Service - 4:30 pm  
Wednesday Night Prayer - 4:30 pm  
Long Weekends - NO Sunday Mass  
Holy Days - 4:30 pm

Sacrament of Penance:  
Monday - 7:30 pm

The Class of 1994 is sponsoring a day trip to New York City on Saturday, November 20, 1993. The cost is \$17.00 per person for the bus ride. Tickets for this event will be sold on a first come first serve basis. Come purchase your ticket soon in G-lobby on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday Nov. 2, 3, 4 and on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday Nov. 8, 9, 10. There is limited space so hurry and join the fun. For further info., stop by the Student Government Office.

Students with Disabilities Peer Support Group Meeting. All are welcome. Let's talk. Every Tuesdays 6:00 pm G-06.

On Wednesday, November 17, 1993 from 11:15 am - 1:45 pm you are invited to attend The Third Annual Fitchburg State College Cultural Harvest Thanksgiving Luncheon. It will be held at the Holmes Dining Commons. The cost is \$4.00 for commuter students, faculty, staff and their guests. For resident students on the meal plan there is no charge. For more info., please contact the International Education office at ext. 3599.

The Winter Wonderland Semi Formal will be held on December 3, at the Best Western Royal Plaza Hotel in Fitchburg. Tickets are \$20 per person, \$35 per couple (lowest price in years!) and can be purchased in G-Lobby between November 15-30. Music will be by Rythmic Wave DJs, there will be dinner and drinks, Door prizes, and a free gift.

FSC is accepting applications for Graduate Assistant positions for the 94-95 academic year in the following programs: Master of Art in Teaching in Biology, History, English, Mathematics, Earth Science. Master of Ed in Elementary ed, Early Childhood, Occupational ed, Special ed. Certificate of Advanced graduate study in Interdisciplinary studies, educational leadership and management. Master of Science in Comm/Med Management, Computer Sci, Counseling, Business Mgt. Graduate Assistant positions are also available in administrative offices and departments. Applications close on May 15, 1994. Contact Linda Winslow at 345-2151 x3185 for more info. Benefits include a generous stipend and tuition waivers for 24 graduate credits.

Don't miss playing the ultimate game of Laser Tag! A GRUDGE MATCH will be held on Thursday, Nov. 18 from 8pm to 11pm at Roll On America, located off Rt. 2, Exit 34, Leominster. Admission is free. Pick your own team or we will help select a team for you that night.

# PERSONALS

Pammie,  
I didn't forget you this week.  
Shall we do dessert this week?!!  
I'll surprise you!  
K

To all the English Club People-  
Thank you for a fascinating and  
sensual night!  
Love, your hostess XO

Kelly,  
WALK!!!  
from you know who

Karen,  
Do you have a clue yet about  
anything or everything? What are  
you doing?  
K

Hey Flipper-  
Are you the snoop dog?!

Bob,  
Thanks for the massage!! maybe  
one of these days I can hypnotize  
you and you won't get freaked.  
We'll see.  
K

Marley the Incredible Smoking  
Hamster now appearing daily at  
148 Day St.

Boody!!

Duke - Watch out for the truck!!!  
D—k head  
-Governor

Do they have three legged dogs in  
Japan?  
- 175 Highland

Cheryl and Mike-  
Good luck with the Love Shack.  
Jen

I still have those Nirvana tickets,  
but they won't last! Call Warren  
342-9446

Poopy-  
Are your toes still tingling?  
Love your VHF (not)

WANTED: Aerobics instructor  
for next semester and/or in the  
future for a semesterly basis.  
Please contact Hall Council Box  
5814 with a copy of certification,  
name, and phone or box #

Bama Mimi Dede Budz 4-Eva  
Coffee Tawk Toke It Up Man  
Peace Love-n-Happiness Danc-  
ing Flowers Who Invited The  
Cool Kid? Q-Kidz

Tracy,  
I hope Lola is feeling better.  
K

Nicole,  
Consider this a great big hug.  
K

Hardy had fangez!!!

Curran has a terrible odor to him  
Jaime drives!!!

Rob can't pick his nose, never  
mind winning a bet

Adam is CheapTrick

19,  
Please give me a call 143.  
Love, 3

103  
Should we install a revolving  
door?!

Peace award winner: Dawn!!

Attention: Looking for a scoop for  
my roommate.  
-DK

M-  
Why do I want to kiss you so  
much?

The men at 175 party way too  
much!!

Pube-head - you party!

Stanks - Clean you hairballs out of  
the shower.  
Love, Crust-n-Crunch

Sometimes I feel Like I been tied  
to the whippin' post.  
-Pojo

Ponderosa is looking for wait staff  
and kitchen help. Good shifts,  
great \$. Apply in person M-Th 2-  
4pm

Are there any real women out  
there?

Happy happy joy joy  
Happy's bummin' oh boy  
Lowney,  
Get a real haircut and a real job!  
?\*

D.J.  
When are you gonna reveal your  
second identity?  
John Elway

Jaime,  
If you're a real Ferrett please tell  
us!  
concerned roomies

Holy Barn Burners!  
We have a new Pal.  
Bobby C.

Hey Carbone, how about a truce  
on the personal attacks?  
Shiek

It's nice being scrimed over!

OB  
You're stuck on three and doubles  
son't count. I'll catch you!

Barry,  
Hershey lives!!  
61

Larry,  
Do you need a diversion?  
Alice

Hey Moira, Where have you  
been?  
You never go out anymore.  
mg

Hey Peter Brady,  
Why don't you make some  
Bloody Mary's.  
K+T

If you want your ovaries mas-  
saged give Jason a call.

Hey Stumpy-  
How's the High Rish from  
Dorchester

Beamer  
You're the balls!

How's your gap?  
stretched or tight - NOT!

Bacon loves IMP- why we don't  
know?!



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345-0361



# Sports Spotlight: Amy Kosiewski and Casey Bromage

by Michael Gordon  
Strobe staff

The recent success of the Fitchburg State Falcons' 1993 field hockey team can be attributed to several factors, from the tremendous impact of its new coaches, to the outstanding play of its defense, and the leagues number one goaltender. The most significant contribution, however, was the flawless play of forwards Amy Kosiewski and Casey Bromage.

Amy and Casey have broken several school and league records, and, to tell you the truth, these new feats may not be overcome for a long time.

They're like thunder and lightning. Casey uses pure power and strength to out muscle her opponents. Amy is equipped with lightning quick speed which allows her to out run the opposition on her way to another FSC score.

Amy Kosiewski played in all 15 games this year for the Falcons. She finished the season as

the league's leading scorer. Amy posted 23 goals and 14 assists, for a total of 60 points. Three of Amy's goals were game winners. When asked what the biggest reason for her success was, Amy was quick to point out that, "It was every single person on the team. We all contributed equally regardless of goals and assists."

Casey Bromage also played in every game for FSC. Casey was the team's leading goal scorer with a remarkable 25 goals in only 15 games. Casey also had three, five-goal games. And like her counterpart Amy, Casey had three game winning goals. Bromage bases her accomplishments on the fact that "Every player on this team is good, from the goaltending, right on up to the coaches. We're like one big family."

Together, this "dynamic duo" accounted for 48 of the teams 65 goals on the year. Although they remain humble, that's an incredible statistic no matter how one looks at it. It's athletes like Casey and Amy which are always part of



Photo by Eric Magiera

championship teams. Their leadership on and off the field has showed why the Falcons have been so successful this season.

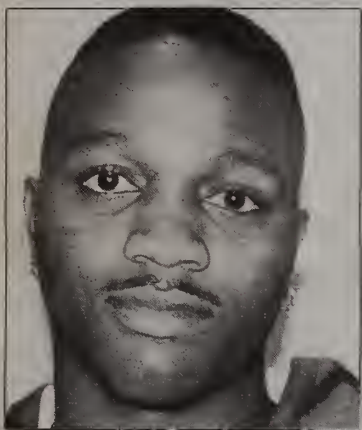
Their tremendous performance helped FSC earn a second

place seed in the MAIAW tournament. The one game elimination tournament has Fitchburg playing long time enemy Bridgewater State in the first round.

Bridgewater upset the Falcons late in the season. "We can't wait for revenge," said Amy. "Their isn't another team we'd rather play."

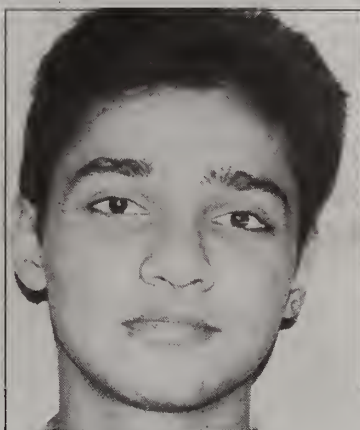
## Sports Question of the Week:

*How do you think the Celtics will do without Reggie Lewis?*



Pat Williams

"I think they should cancel Christmas! The Celtics without Reggie, are in a lot of trouble. I think they will finish fourth this year. I hate the Celtics anyway!"



Sarat Devarakonda

"I think they'll do OK but will have a lot of problems without the outside shots of Reggie and their draft picks are pretty good. Acie Earl is probably going to play the position for Lewis."

Photos by Eric Metzner



## WHERE DO YOU GO FROM HERE?

We have a suggestion: the **GRE®/CGS Forum on Graduate Education.**

**BOSTON**  
Westin Copley Place  
10 Huntington Avenue  
Saturday,  
November 20, 1993

Registration begins  
at 8 a.m.

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FORUMS

Individuals who are hearing impaired and wish to request an interpreter must contact ETS at least four weeks prior to The Forum.

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Ask representatives of graduate schools about their programs and obtain catalogs and application forms.

In addition, you can attend special workshops on various graduate disciplines, financial aid, and preparing for the GRE exam. There are also workshops for minority and returning students.

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"Perhaps no person can be a poet, or can even enjoy poetry, without a certain unsoundness of mind."

Thomas Babington, Lord Macaulay  
- 1800-1859



# Field hockey wins MASCAC title

by Michael Gordon  
Strobe staff

Coming into the final stretch of the season, the women's field hockey team was looking to have one of its best seasons ever. They were 8-2 with four games remaining. And all were on the road.

The trip began against a much weaker Simmons College squad in Boston. The Falcons got off Storrow Drive a bit sluggish but came away with a 3-1 win. Casey Bromage opened the scoring for

FSC. Simmons would quickly strike to tie the game at one. But with eight minutes remaining, defensive leader, Tina Ledger, would score her only goal of the year to give the Falcons the lead. Fitchburg added a goal late to ensure the victory.

The next victim for the Falcons was the Framingham State Rams, but these Rams packed no punch. FSC won easily in a 9-0 rout. There were six different scorers for the Falcons. Amy Kosiewski racked up four goals. Solo goals came from Erika Oliver, Lisa Chiarenza, Meredith Hertel, Wendy Gagliani,

and Casey Bromage. FSC improved their record to 10-2 overall, and were seeking a conference title.

On October 28, the Falcons headed to Worcester for a make-up game against Assumption, but the Falcon winning streak would end at four. The Division II bite of the Greyhounds was just too much for the Falcons on this day.

For the first time in a long time, FSC found themselves having to play at both ends of the field. Assumption kept tremendous pressure on the Falcons throughout the contest. And the usual potent attack

could only muster two goals. Erika Oliver and Casey Bromage were the only shooters who could find the range as Assumption squeaked out the 3-2 win.

The Falcons wrapped up the season two days later in Chicopee against Elms College. FSC didn't disappoint as they capped the year in championship style. The flying Falcons shut out Elms 3-0. The shutout gave FSC goaltender Pamela Fielding her fourth shut out of the year.

It was only fitting that the Falcon

scorers were Amy Kosiewski with two goals and Casey Bromage with one. "When we really needed the win, Amy and Casey came up big for us," said senior Lisa Chiarenza. "It was awesome watching them do it all year long."

The final victory gave the 1993 women's field hockey team an 11-3 record overall, 4-1 in the conference, and the Division III MASCAC title. Congratulations to the Falcons and first year head coach, Lisa Valardy, and assistant coach, Beth Bacher. Great job!

## Men and women's soccer close out season

by Greg Masse  
Staff writer

Aiming to round out another bright season was the Fitchburg State men's soccer team. Their last round of games began at home on a cold and dreary Thursday afternoon against Wentworth Institute. The Falcons apparently weren't affected by the conditions as they edged out Wentworth, 4-3.

The Falcons showed tremendous life offensively. They pummeled the opposing goalie with a remarkable 28 shots on goal. Chris Dupuis led the way for the Falcons with two goals.

Fitchburg remained at home to host Mass Maritime three days later. Maritime came into the game with a 3-13 record, and were in no position to improve on that. The Maritime offense could only get five shots on net, none of which beat FSC goaltender, Chris Gillis. The Falcons thrashed Maritime, 7-0. Chris Dupuis recorded the hat

trick. Dean Nichols would tally a goal and 3 assists.

Fitchburg would finish up the season's last two games on the road. Their first opponent was Clark University and on another gloomy afternoon the Falcons were still able to fly. They shut out Clark by a score of 2-0. The win gave FSC a 10-5 record and a shot at receiving an invitation for post-season play. What they needed was a victory in the final game versus North Adams.

However, the long trek west didn't help the Falcons. North Adams defeated FSC 2-0, and the loss eliminated any hopes for a tournament for the Falcons.

As far as the women's soccer team goes, the last three games were a bit disappointing. They lost a game at Gordon College and then two games at home against Salem State and Bridgewater State.

The one bright spot for the Falcons was the outstanding play of sophomore, Ginger Boormeester. Boormeester received several



It's a bird...it's a plane...it's a soccer ball, stupid.

photo by Eric Magiera

league awards throughout the course of the season. She was also the team's leading scorer with 17

points.

The team ended the season with a 5-9-0 record. And considering that

this is the first women's soccer team at FSC, they performed pretty darn good. Congratulations!

## FSC basketball preview

by Nick Chareas  
Contributing writer

Well, sports fans, here we are. Another year, another season. And I'm here to give you a preseason report on your fighting Falcons' 1993-94 men's basketball team. But I'm giving you something you're not used to...the honest truth.

Being part of this team allows me to give you a different perspective than the average observer can comment on.

First, the bad news. We have one senior returning. Our assistant coach from last year quit. We lost our leading scorer. We're coming off a 3-win season. And we're playing three teams ranked in the New England top ten.

But although we had problems last year there is some good news. The good news is that we have eight freshman to help rebuild, three dedicated returning starters, two new assistant coaches full of enthusiasm, and, after last year's performance, there's no place to go but up!

This year we will rely heavily on junior leader Richard "Mookie" Harding who plays guard. Mookie's one of the better players in the league and we'll look to him to get us some points. Alongside Mookie will be sophomore Derrek Patria from Athol.

Other returning players are Nick Chareas, Joe Venuni, and senior John Brown. The slew of freshman under their guidance will be Tim Washington, Dennis Zilembo, Mark McCormick, Shawn O'Rourke, Jon Paula, Arterio Texiera, and Eric Freund.

Although we're expecting a turbulent season, everyone's really excited. Hopefully the student body will come to Parkinson's Gymnasium and give us some much needed support. And if you arrive early enough, you may be able to hear the athletic trainer Robert Burke sing the Star Spangled Banner.

## Mariners trounce Falcon football team

by Sean McCarthy  
Staff writer

The Fitchburg State football team had their biggest test of the season when they faced the highly touted Maine Maritime Mariners. Maine certainly lived up to their advanced billing. The first place Mariners displayed why they are on top of the N.E.F.C.

Behind a strong performance from running back, Kevin Mitchello, Maine had little trouble dispatching the Falcons. Maine scored often and early. They

had a 21 point lead at halftime. Mitchello had 211 yards on 27 carries. Maine played well on both sides of the ball and is considered, by far, the best team in the league. "I see no reason why they shouldn't go far in the playoffs," said FSC junior defensive end, Owen Bard.

The Falcons are still showing deficiencies offensively. However, the defense played better than the score indicated. Maine scored twice on special teams. A punt return and a fumble recovery led to two Marinertouchdowns. The final score was Mariners 45, Falcons 8.

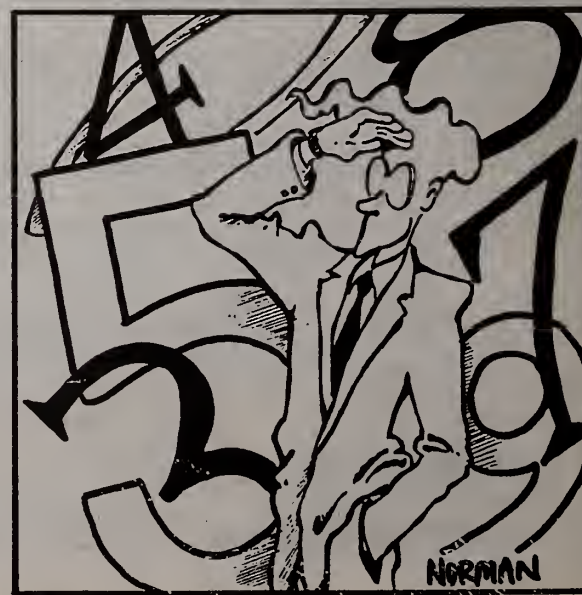
With the season coming to a

close, frustration is beginning to show on the faces of the once optimistic Falcons. After two years of winless football, answers are scarce.

I offer that this is really a lack of commitment from the top. Those in charge are sending mixed messages to the players. The team has no locker room and often times appears to take a backseat to other teams at FSC. On a team with only two, four-year seniors, one can only question the impression the football programming is having on potentially talented incoming freshman.

MORTY STARTS LOOKING OUT FOR NUMBER ONE.

LACK OF FOCUS



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